

CLAIM AMENDMENTS

The following is a complete list of claims. The claims below replace all prior versions of the claims in the application. Please amend claims 1, 8, 18 and 19, and add claims 31 – 43.

1. (Currently Amended) A vessel, comprising:
 - a multi-mode hull operable to allow the vessel to function in at least two operational modes;
 - a frame; and
 - a bay disposed in the frame and operable to receive a mission module operable to provide mission-specific functionality to the vessel while disposed in the bay.
2. (Original) The vessel of claim 1, further comprising an interface operable to be coupled between the frame and the mission module.
3. (Original) The vessel of claim 2 wherein the interface is operable to facilitate the exchange of fuel between the frame and the module.
4. (Original) The vessel of claim 2 wherein the interface is operable to facilitate the exchange of water between the frame and the module.
5. (Original) The vessel of claim 2 wherein the interface is operable to facilitate the exchange of personnel between the frame and the module.
6. (Original) The vessel of claim 2 wherein the interface is operable to facilitate the exchange of electrical power between the frame and the module.
7. (Original) The vessel of claim 2 wherein the interface is operable to facilitate transmission of electronic communication signals between the frame and the mission module.
8. (Currently Amended) The vessel of claim 1 wherein the multi-mode hull frame comprises a foil-assisted twin hull.

9. – 17. Canceled

18. (Currently Amended) A vessel, comprising:

a multi-mode hull operable to allow the vessel to function in at least two operational modes;

a bay operable to receive a mission module; and

an interface operable to facilitate the coupling of the mission module to the vessel, the module operable to provide mission-specific functionality to the vessel while disposed in the bay.

19. (Currently Amended) A vessel system, comprising

a vessel having a multi-mode hull operable to allow the vessel to function in at least two operational modes;

a bay disposed in the vessel; and

a mission module disposed in the bay and operable to provide mission-specific functionality to the vessel while disposed in the bay.

20. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the mission module is configured to perform anti-mine warfare.

21. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the mission module is configured to perform littoral anti-submarine warfare.

22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the mission module is configured to perform special operation support.

23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the mission module is configured to perform logistics support.

24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the mission module is configured to perform a maritime intercept function.

25. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19 wherein the mission module is configured to perform an intelligence/surveillance/reconnaissance function.

26. Canceled

27. Canceled
28. (Original) The system of claim 19 wherein the vessel comprises a sailing ship.
29. Canceled
30. Canceled
31. (New) The vessel of claim 1 wherein the multi-mode hull includes the frame.
32. (New) The vessel of claim 1 wherein the operational modes include a logistics mode.
33. (New) The vessel of claim 1 wherein the operational modes include a catamaran mode.
34. (New) The vessel of claim 1 wherein the operational modes include a SWATH mode.
35. (New) The vessel of claim 1 wherein the operational modes include a low freeboard mode.
36. (New) The vessel of claim 1 wherein the multi-mode hull includes a twin hull.
37. (New) The vessel of claim 1 wherein the multi-mode hull includes a monohull.
38. (New) The vessel of claim 18 wherein the multi-mode hull includes a twin hull.
39. (New) The vessel of claim 18 wherein the multi-mode hull includes a monohull.
40. (New) The vessel of claim 18 wherein the operational modes include a logistics mode.
41. (New) The vessel of claim 18 wherein the operational modes include a catamaran mode.
42. (New) The vessel of claim 18 wherein the operational modes include a SWATH mode.
43. (New) The vessel of claim 18 wherein the operational modes include a low freeboard mode.